

Message Text

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S E C R E T USNATO 1851

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR MNUC NPG NATO
SUBJ: NPG; NIKE HERCULES AND DUAL-CAPABLE AIRCRAFT STUDIES

THERE FOLLOWS BELOW THE TEXT OF A LETTER TO SYG LUNS FROM
THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE REGARDING
LATE TRANSMITTAL OF THE NPG NIKE HERCULES AND DUAL-CAPABLE
AIRCRAFT STUDIES. SINCE THE STUDIES WERE DISTRIBUTED TO
ALLIES CONCURRENTLY WITH THEIR FORWARDING TO THE MILITARY
COMMITTEE, THE EFFECTIVE TIME FOR NATIONAL REVIEW OF THE
STUDIES THEMSELVES IS NOT AFFECTED. THEREFORE, WE FORESEE
NO DIFFICULTY IN SCHEDULING FORMAL PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
CONSIDERATION TO THE STUDIES AND THEIR MILITARY COMMITTEE
APPRAISALS IN TIME FOR MINISTERIAL REVIEW AT OTTAWA IN
JUNE. BEGIN TEXT:

SUBJ: NPG STUDIES ON NIKE HERCULES AND DUAL-CAPABLE AIRCRAFT

REF: A. NAMC/ATO/1/77, 1 MARCH 1977
B. NAMC/14/77, 7 MARCH 1977
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1. THE NIKE HERCULES STUDY (REFERENCE A.) HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED
TO NPG PERM REPS AND MILREPS. BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE AND
COMPLEXITY OF THE STUDY, SOME MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES OF NPG
NATIONS HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED THEIR FULL GUIDANCE FROM CAPITALS.
IN ORDER THAT THE REPORT SUBMITTED TO YOU WILL BE A FULLY
COMPREHENSIVE APPRAISAL, ITS SUBMISSION WILL HAVE TO BE DELAYED
BEYOND THE PREVIOUSLY DESIGNATED 31 MARCH DATE. I ASSURE YOU
THE MILITARY VIEWS WILL BE FORWARDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT
MOST PROBABLY BY THE THIRD WEEK IN APRIL.

2. A SIMILAR SITUATION PREVAILS IN THE CASE OF THE DUAL CAPABLE AIRCRAFT STUDY (REFERENCE B.) WHICH WAS DELAYED BY WINTEX, ARRIVING HERE ON 21 MARCH 1977. IT HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO MILREPS AND YESTERDAY WAS DISPATCHED TO NATIONAL DELEGATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF SO THEIR REVIEW COULD BEGIN. IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT THE 31 MARCH SUSPENSE DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE MILREPS' ASSESSMENT OF THE DUAL CAPABLE AIRCRAFT STUDY CANNOT BE MET IF IT IS TO BE THE THOROUGH AND COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT WHICH THIS IMPORTANT SUBJECT DESERVES. AGAIN, THE MILITARY VIEWS WILL BE FORWARDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT NO LATER THAN END OF APRIL 1977.

3. ON BEHALF OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE I REQUEST YOUR FOR-BEARANCE IN SCHEDULING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE FORMAL CONSIDER-A TION OF THESE STUDIES PENDING RECEIPT OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE VIEWS. END TEXT. STRAUSS-HUPE

SECRET

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